

In the Claims

1 1. [Original] An image forming device comprising:
2 an image engine configured to use a consumable to form a hard image; and
3 processing circuitry coupled with the image engine and configured to:
4 perform prediction operations with respect to the consumable to
5 predict a likelihood that an image job will be imaged;
6 receive a change of use indication with respect to the consumable; and
7 modify the prediction operations responsive to the change of use.

1 2. [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising a memory
2 configured to store predictive data regarding usage of the consumable responsive to
3 the formation of hard images, and wherein the processing circuitry is configured to
4 access the predictive data to perform the prediction operations.

1 3. [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to reset the predictive data to modify the prediction operations, and
3 wherein the memory is configured to store subsequent predictive data after the
4 resetting, and the processing circuitry is configured to use the subsequent predictive
5 data after the resetting to perform subsequent prediction operations after the
6 resetting.

1 4. [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to set a change of use warning associated with the predictive data to
3 modify the prediction operations.

1 5. [Original] The device of claim 2 wherein the memory is located upon
2 the consumable.

1 6. [Original] The device of claim 1 further comprising a memory
2 configured to store historical data regarding usage of the consumable responsive to
3 the formation of hard images, and wherein the processing circuitry is configured to

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4 use the historical data to perform the prediction operations and to maintain the
5 historical data after the change of use.

1 7. [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to suspend the prediction operations to modify the prediction operations.

1 8. [Original] The device of claim 7 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to establish confidence in the prediction operations after the suspension
3 and to reenale the prediction operations after the establishment of confidence.

1 9. [Original] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to verify the change of use indication responsive to receiving the change
3 of use indication, and to modify the prediction operations responsive to the
4 verification.

1 10. [Original] A method of operating an image forming device configured
2 to use a consumable to form a hard image, the method comprising:
3 performing prediction operations with respect to a consumable to predict a
4 likelihood that an image job will be imaged;
5 indicating a change of use of the consumable; and
6 modifying the prediction operations with respect to the consumable after the
7 indicating the change of use.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising storing predictive
2 data regarding usage of the consumable, and wherein the performing comprises
3 performing the prediction operations using the predictive data.

1 12. [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the modifying comprises
2 resetting the predictive data, and further comprising acquiring subsequent predictive
3 data after the resetting, and performing subsequent prediction operations using the
4 predictive data acquired after the resetting.

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1 13. [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the modifying comprises
2 setting a change of use warning indication associated with the predictive data.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 11 wherein the storing comprises
2 storing the predictive data upon a memory of the consumable.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising storing historical
2 data regarding usage of a consumable, and wherein the performing the prediction
3 operations comprises performing using the historical data, and further comprising
4 maintaining the historical data during the modifying.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 10 wherein the modifying the
2 prediction operations comprises suspending the prediction operations.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 16 further comprising:
2 establishing confidence in the prediction operations after the
3 modifying; and
4 reenabling the prediction operations with respect to the consumable
5 after establishing confidence.

1 18. [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising verifying the
2 change of use of the consumable, and wherein the modifying is responsive to the
3 verifying.

1 19. [Original] The method of claim 10 further comprising moving the
2 consumable from a first image forming device to a second image forming device,
3 and wherein the indicating is responsive to the moving.

1 20. [Original] A method of providing consumable information comprising:
2 providing a consumable usable to form hard images;
3 storing predictive data concerning usage of the consumable upon the
4 consumable to enable prediction operations to predict a likelihood that an image job
5 will be imaged using the consumable; and

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6 setting a warning indication upon the consumable and associated with the
7 predictive data to indicate a change of use of the consumable and to warn a user of
8 a suspect nature of the predictive data.

1 21. [Original] A method of operating printer configured to use a
2 consumable to form hard images, the method comprising:
3 printing a plurality of hard images;
4 storing predictive data regarding usage of a consumable responsive to the
5 printing, wherein the storing predictive data comprises storing upon a memory of the
6 consumable;
7 storing historical data regarding usage of the consumable responsive to the
8 printing, wherein the storing historical data comprises storing upon the memory;
9 performing prediction operations with respect to the consumable using the
10 predictive data and the historical data to predict a likelihood that an image job will
11 be imaged using the consumable;
12 indicating a change of use of the consumable after the performing;
13 verifying the change of use of the consumable after the indicating;
14 resetting the predictive data after the verifying;
15 maintaining the historical data during the resetting;
16 acquiring subsequent predictive data after the resetting;
17 establishing confidence in the prediction operations after the resetting;
18 and
19 performing subsequent prediction operations after the establishing confidence
20 using the historical data and the subsequent predictive data.

1 22. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to perform the prediction operations comprising comparing a number of
3 pages of the image job to be imaged with respect to predictive data indicative of a
4 remaining supply of the consumable.

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1 23. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the change of use indication is
2 responsive to a change in environment from a first type of printing environment to a
3 second type of printing environment different than the first type of printing
4 environment.

1 24. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to access data indicative of an amount of the consumable used to print a
3 single sheet of paper to perform the prediction operations.

1 25. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to utilize a number of pages of the image job to be imaged to perform the
3 prediction operations to predict the likelihood that the image job will be imaged.

1 26. [New] The device of claim 1 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to perform the prediction operations responsive to the provision of the
3 image job for imaging using the image engine.

1 27. [New] The device of claim 7 wherein the processing circuitry is
2 configured to control the image engine to form hard images of image jobs during
3 suspension of the prediction operations.

1 28. [New] The method of claim 10 further comprising accessing
2 information regarding a number of pages of the image job to be imaged, and wherein
3 the performing comprises performing the prediction operations using the number of
4 pages.

1 29. [New] The method of claim 28 further comprising accessing data
2 indicative of a remaining supply of the consumable, and wherein the performing
3 comprises comparing the number of pages of the image job to be imaged with the
4 data.

1 30. [New] The method of claim 10 further comprising providing a request
2 to image the image job and wherein the performing is responsive to the request.

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